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amnesty international
INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT
1 Easton Street London WC1X 8DJ
United Kingdom

GETTING AWAY WITH MURDER
October 1993
August 1994
CAMPAIGN AGAINST "DISAPPEARANCES" AND POLITICAL KILLINGS

URGENT ACTION

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: ASA 21/18/94
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UA 228/94 "Disappearance" / Fear of Torture 13 June 1994

INDONESIA/EAST TIMOR

Filomeno da Silva Pereira, 37
Francisco Miranda Branco, 44
Gregorio da Cunha Saldanha, 31
Jacinto das Neves Raimundo Alves, 37
Juvencio de Jesus Martins, 35
Saturnino da Costa Belo, 29

Six East Timorese prisoners of conscience, jailed after the Santa Cruz massacre of 12 November 1991, are reported to have "disappeared" after being removed from the prison in Dili, East Timor, where they were serving sentences up to life imprisonment on political charges.

Amnesty International fears they may be subjected to torture or ill-treatment. It is calling on the Indonesian authorities to make their whereabouts known immediately and to provide guarantees of their physical and mental well-being.

Relatives who went to the Comarca prison in Dili for a regular visit were reportedly told by other prisoners there that the six had been led away in handcuffs by a unit of the Police Mobile Brigade in the early hours of 9 or 10 June. As of 12 June, relatives had been unable to locate the six at other prisons and military installations in the city, and the authorities denied any knowledge of their whereabouts.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The six prisoners named above were sentenced to between five-and-a-half years and life imprisonment in 1992 for their non-violent political activities on behalf of East Timor's independence movement. They are among some 20 East Timorese prisoners of conscience currently serving lengthy prison terms in East Timor or Indonesia, most of whom were accused of organizing and taking part in the peaceful pro-independence procession to the Santa Cruz cemetery on 12 November during which Indonesian troops opened fire. As many as 270 people were killed at the cemetery and in subsequent days; and at least 200 others were reported to have "disappeared".

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters either in English or in your own language:
- expressing urgent concern for the safety of the six prisoners of conscience named above (please list all the names), following reports of their "disappearance" from Comarca prison in Dili on or around 9 June 1994;
- urging the government to make known their whereabouts as a matter of urgency, and to act immediately to protect the six from torture or ill-treatment;
- urging the government to release immediately all those held for their non-violent political activities.

☎ (44)(71) 413 5500 Telegrams: Amnesty London WC1 Telex: 28502 FAX: 956 1157

Amnesty International is an independent worldwide movement working for the international protection of human rights. It seeks the *release* of men and women detained anywhere because of their beliefs, colour, sex, ethnic origin, language or religious creed, provided they have not used or advocated violence. These are termed *prisoners of conscience.* It works for *fair and prompt trials* for *all political prisoners* and works on behalf of such people detained without charge or trial. It opposes the *death penalty* and *torture* or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment of *all prisoners.*

APPEALS TO

1. MINISTER OF JUSTICE
Haji Utoyo Usman S.H.
Menteri Kehakiman
Jl. Rasuna Said Kav. 6-7
Kuningan
Jakarta Selatan
Indonesia
Faxes: +62 21 3141 625
Telexes: 44404 ditjenim ia
Telegrams: Justice Minister, Jakarta, Indonesia
Salutation: Dear Minister Utoyo Usman

2. MILITARY COMMANDER REGION IX
(covers Bali, Lombok and Nusa Tenggara including East Timor)
Brigadier-General R. Adang Ruchiatna
Pangdam IX/Udayana
Markas Besar KODAM IX Udayana
Denpasar
Bali, Indonesia
Telegrams: Pangdam IX/Udayana, Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia
Salutation: Dear Brigadier-General Adang Ruchiatna

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

Lt. Gen. (Ret) Ali Said
Chairman, National Commission on Human Rights
c/o Directorat Jenderal Pemasyarakatan
Jl. Veteran No. 11
Jakarta Pusat
Indonesia

and to diplomatic representatives of Indonesia accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 25 July 1994.

— Please take action as soon as you receive this Urgent Action appeal. Carefully read the recommended actions. If possible, send a telegram, telex, fax or express letter immediately to one or more of the addresses given. Other letters can be sent afterwards.

— Telegrams and letters should be brief and courteous. Stress that your concern for human rights is not in any way politically partisan. Refer to relevant provisions in international law, such as the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights:

Article 3 — "Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person."

Article 5 — "No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment."

Article 9 — "No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile."

— The name of Amnesty International may be used, although letters written in a private or personal capacity may be more effective.

— Copies of appeals should be sent to relevant diplomatic representatives in your country.

— In Urgent Actions cases, Amnesty International has to act rapidly on behalf of victims of grave human rights violations. An appeal is issued when Amnesty International believes it has received reliable and accurate information in such cases. It is not always possible to verify all details independently and in some instances the situation outlined in the appeal may change. Urgent Action participants are always notified of any significant new facts.

— Copies of any replies received from government authorities should be sent immediately to your section's Urgent Action co-ordinator or direct to the Campaign and Membership Department of the International Secretariat. If appropriate, thank the official who has replied and ask to be kept informed about the case.